

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 EB-07 OMB-01 IO-10 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 OPIC-03 ARA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 /103 W

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R 191418Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3010

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.L. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, GW, PO

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE PPD PARTY SEEKS SUPPORT IN THE FRG

1. DURING HIS VISIT TO THE FRG, WHICH ENDED SEPTEMBER 11, RUI MACHITE, HEAD OF THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SECTION OF THE PORTUGUESE POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PPD), HAD CONVERSATIONS WITH OFFICIALS OF THE SPD AND THE FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION.

2. MACHITE DISCUSSED HIS EFFORTS WITH THE AFL-CIO EUROPEAN REPRESENTATIVE IRVING BROWN AND THE EMBASSY LABOR ATTACHE. HE SAID THAT THE PPD IS TRYING TO CONVINCE POTENTIAL SYMPATHIZERS ABROAD THAT THE PPD IS THE ONLY AUTHENTIC SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY IN PORTUGAL. IN THE FRG HE TRIED TO SECURE COMMITMENTS OF SUPPORT FROM THE SPD AND THE FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION WHICH ALSO SUPPORT THE LEADER OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY, MARIO

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SOARES. (THERE ARE CONFLICTING INDICATIONS ON

WHETHER MACHITE'S EFFORTS TO SECURE FINANCIAL SUPPORT WERE SUCCESSFUL.) MACHITE SAID THAT HE HAD WRITTEN THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY IN NEW YORK AFTER READING THAT IT HAD ESTABLISHED A COMMITTEE TO AID "FREE PORTUGAL" AND THAT HE WAS IN CONTACT WITH THE FRENCH GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF LABOR, FO. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT THE PPD DESIRES GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE AFL-CIO.

3. MACHITE WAS FAIRLY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE FUTURE OF PORTUGAL NOW THAT PRIME MINISTER GONZALVES HAS BEEN REMOVED. BUT HE FEARED THAT PORTUGAL FACES AN ECONOMIC CRISIS, COMPLICATED BY EMIGRATION OF A LARGE NUMBER OF YOUNG BETTER EDUCATED TECHNICIANS TO BRAZIL. HE SAID THAT IN THE PAST MOST PORTUGUESE EMIGRATING TO BRAZIL WERE EITHER SMALL SHOPKEEPERS OR RELATIVELY UNEDUCATED WORKERS. THIS EXODUS OF YOUNG TRAINED PEOPLE WILL MAKE ECONOMIC RECOVERY MORE DIFFICULT IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HE CLAIMED THAT ALTHOUGH GOOD PERSONAL RELATIONS EXIST BETWEEN SOARES OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY AND THE PPD, PPD LEADERS DO NOT BELIEVE THAT SOARES HAS THE ABILITY TO SERVE EFFECTIVELY AS A MINISTER IN A DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT.
CASH

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